AMENDMENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising steps of:

indexing a media collection to create an indexed library based on a content of the media collection, wherein indexing the media collection includes analyzing the content of the media collection to determine whether speech recognition data or closed captioning data may be used to index the media collection;

searching the indexed library to identify a set of candidate program segments based on a search criteria; and

browsing the set of candidate program segments to select a segment for viewing.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein:

the step of indexing further includes a step forming a browseable image for each segment of the set of candidate program segments, each browseable image including keywords identified in the searchable text data for display in the browseable image; and

the step of browsing includes selecting a display segment from the set of candidate program segments and displaying the associated browseable image with associated keywords.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein:

each browseable image further includes key images identified in the indexed library for display in the browseable image; and

the step of displaying the associated browseable image further displays associated key images.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

the searchable text data associated with the selected display segment includes a first word having low information content and a second word having high information content; and

the step of forming a browseable image includes selecting the second word as a keyword and rejecting the first word as a keyword.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein:

the step of indexing further includes a step forming a browseable image for each segment of the set of candidate program segments, each browseable image including key images identified in the indexed library for display in the browseable image; and

the step of browsing includes selecting a display segment from the set of candidate program segments and displaying the associated browseable image.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein:

the media associated with the selected display segment includes an image of an anchor-person having low information content and a field shot image of an event having high information content; and

the step of forming a browseable image includes selecting the field shot image as a key image and rejecting the image of the anchor-person as a key image.

8. (previously presented) A method of indexing media for browsing, the method comprising:

indexing a media collection according to detection of speaker voice characteristics;

receiving a search query from a user to locate a media segment from the indexed media collection; and

presenting a portion of the indexed media collection according to the user search query.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein indexing a media collection further comprises indexing the media collection according to visual information.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein indexing a media collection according to detection of speaker voice characteristics further comprises identifying speaker speech segments.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising extracting media segments from identified speaker speech segments.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising extracting summaries of media segments by an identified speaker.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein presenting a portion of the indexed media collection according to the user search query further comprises presenting the extracted summaries in response to the user search query.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein receiving a search query from a user further comprises receiving a natural language query.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising receiving contextual information from a previous user interaction with the natural language query.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the contextual information is a dialog state and the method further comprises returning an answer in an HTML format.

17. (previously presented) The method of 14, wherein receiving a natural language search query from a user further comprises generating a semantic description of the natural language query in terms of keyword/value pairs.